

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 574

To amend part A of title IV of the Social Security Act to toll the 5-year limit for assistance under the temporary assistance to needy families program for recipients who live in a State that is experiencing significant increases in unemployment.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 7, 2003

Mr. CORZINE (for himself and Mrs. MURRAY) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend part A of title IV of the Social Security Act to toll the 5-year limit for assistance under the temporary assistance to needy families program for recipients who live in a State that is experiencing significant increases in unemployment.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Unemployment Protec-
5 tion for Low-Income Families on TANF Act of 2003” or
6 the “UPLIFT Act of 2003”.

1 **SEC. 2. DISREGARD OF MONTHS OF ASSISTANCE RECEIVED**
 2 **DURING PERIODS OF HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 408(a)(7) of the Social
 4 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 608(a)(7)) is amended by adding
 5 at the end the following:

6 “(H) DISREGARD OF ASSISTANCE RE-
 7 CEIVED DURING PERIODS OF HIGH UNEMPLOY-
 8 MENT.—

9 “(i) IN GENERAL.—In determining
 10 the number of months for which an adult
 11 has received assistance under a State or
 12 tribal program funded under this part, the
 13 State or tribe shall disregard any month in
 14 which the State is determined to be a high
 15 unemployment State for that month.

16 “(ii) DEFINITION OF HIGH UNEM-
 17 PLOYMENT STATE.—For purposes of
 18 clause (i), a State shall be considered to be
 19 a high unemployment State for a month if
 20 it satisfies either of the following criteria:

21 “(I) STATE RATE OF UNEMPLOY-
 22 MENT.—The average—

23 “(aa) rate of total unem-
 24 ployment (seasonally adjusted) in
 25 the State for the period con-
 26 sisting of the most recent 3

1 months for which data are avail-
2 able has increased by the lesser
3 of 1.5 percentage points or by 50
4 percent over the corresponding 3-
5 month period in either of the 2
6 most recent preceding fiscal
7 years; or

8 “(bb) insured unemployment
9 rate (seasonally adjusted) in the
10 State for the most recent 3
11 months for which data are avail-
12 able has increased by 1 percent-
13 age point over the corresponding
14 3-month period in either of the 2
15 most recent preceding fiscal
16 years.

17 “(II) NATIONAL RATE OF UNEM-
18 PLOYMENT.—The average rate of
19 total unemployment (seasonally ad-
20 justed) for all States for the period
21 consisting of the most recent 3
22 months for which data for all States
23 are published equals or exceeds 6.5
24 percent.

1 “(iii) DURATION.—A State that is
2 considered to be a high unemployment
3 State under clause (ii) for a month shall
4 continue to be considered such a State
5 until the rate that was used to meet the
6 definition as a high unemployment State
7 under that clause for the most recently
8 concluded 3-month period for which data
9 are available, falls below the level attained
10 in the 3-month period in which the State
11 first qualified as a high unemployment
12 State under that clause.”.

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